

RHIC & AGS Users' Group Subcommittee on Bylaws

Vicki Greene, chair
Feb. 20, 2004

2/20/2004

SVG RHIC&AGS UEC

Elections I Nominating Committee

- Present Language:

The Nominating Committee shall consist of four members appointed by the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee is charged with preparing a slate of candidates for election of the Chair-elect, and Executive Committee members.

- Proposed Change:

The Nominating Committee shall consist of four members **appointed by the Chair and approved by the Executive Committee**. The Nominating Committee is charged with preparing a slate of candidates for election of the Chair-elect, and Executive Committee members.

- Reason for Change: Simpler process than using a committee to choose a committee but still allows for input from UEC members.
- Question: Are Nominating committee members generally chosen from among the UEC members?

Elections II When Good Elections Go Bad

- What procedure will we follow if an election results in a tie? This is not covered in the present charter.
- Some possibilities:
 - Have a runoff election. This begs the question what if the runoff election results in a tie?
 - Let the UEC vote.
 - Other possibilities?
- Reason for change: This happened in the last election for spokesperson and an ad hoc solution had to be found (a runoff was held)

Elections III More Inclusive

- Present Language:

The Nominating Committee is charged with preparing a slate of candidates for election of the Chair-elect, and Executive Committee members. The slate should reflect a balance of interests among active fields of research at the BNL facilities.

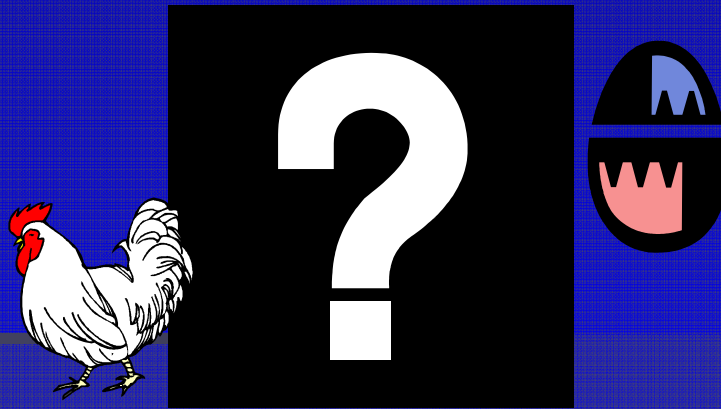
- Proposed Change:

The Nominating Committee is charged with preparing a slate of candidates for election of the Chair-elect, and Executive Committee members. The slate should reflect a balance of interests, **institutions, and nationalities** among active fields of research at the BNL facilities.

- Reason for change: fairness; UEC more representative of Users; insight into particular concerns of non-US Users

Two new Issues:

- Traditionally, the bylaws have been changed by a vote of members of the RHIC & AGS Users Group after the proposed changes have been presented at a Users' meeting. But...
- The present charter does not actually contain provisions for changing the bylaws. I reviewed two early copies of the charter (Thanks to Bob Chrien) and they also do not mention changing the bylaws. So...



- Proposal: UEC adds this provision to the present charter.

The other problem – Midterm changes in UEC membership

- Stephen Johnson has resigned from the UEC.
- The present charter does not cover this situation. However, an older draft of the charter contained this provision (emphasis is in the charter):

a. The officers of the Group are the Chair, Chair-elect, and the Past Chair. The Chair will serve as the executive officer of the Group. A Chair-elect shall be elected by plurality vote of the membership every year, and will assume the duties of the Chair in the second year following his election. The Past Chair will assist the Chair in his duties for one year after his tenure as Chair. At least two candidates for the Chair shall be presented by a Nominating Committee and/or by nomination from the floor. When necessary, the Chair shall have the power to fill vacancies occurring between meetings.

- I propose that we add this to the charter immediately so that the vacancy can be filled.

Other

- Are UEC meetings officially open to all members? This should be clarified in the bylaws. Right now, they are treated as such.
- Right now, only regular (elected) members of the UEC can:
 - Gets copies of the meeting minutes
 - Be counted for a quorum
 - Call for a written vote

Should we extend these privileges to the appointed member as well?